

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 16: Cancelled

17. (Currently Amended) A belt shaft retractor having a blocking system that is controlled in a vehicle sensitive and/or belt strap sensitive manner, and also having a tensioning device, which acts on the belt shaft (12), for carrying out a reversible pretensioning of a vehicle occupant, comprising:

a spiral toothing (19) that meshes with an external toothing (20) of the belt shaft (12);

a fixed counter-bearing (23) wherein said spiral toothing (19) is supported against said counter-bearing such that upon an occurrence of an axial loading of said spiral toothing (19) directed against said counter-bearing (23) due to a load acting upon said belt shaft (12) in a belt withdrawal direction, a rotation of said spiral toothing, for receiving a torque applied by said belt shaft (12) is prevented via a support force; and

a friction-increasing component (25, 26, 28, 29, 30) disposed between said counter-bearing (23) and a first thread of said spiral toothing (19); and

an electric motor (16) as a tensioner drive, wherein said electric motor is adapted to be coupled to said belt shaft (12) via said spiral toothing (19), wherein said electric motor is adapted to act upon a carrier shaft (18), and wherein said spiral toothing (19) is fixedly disposed on said carrier shaft (18).

18. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 17, wherein said spiral toothing (19) is coupled to a drive shaft (34) of said electric motor (16) via a miter-wheel gearing (17).

19. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 18, wherein said miter-wheel gearing (17) is embodied as a crown wheel gear mechanism (17).

20. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 18, wherein said spiral toothing (19) is formed on a carrier shaft (18), and wherein said carrier shaft (18) is connected to the miter-wheel gearing (17).

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A safety belt retractor according to claim ~~24~~17, wherein said friction-increasing component is a spacer disk (25) of a material having a non-linear coefficient of friction~~is provided~~.

23. (Withdrawn) A safety belt retractor according to claim ~~24~~17, wherein said friction-increasing component is a bearing disk (26) ~~is provided~~ that deforms axially and elastically as load increases.

24. (Withdrawn) A safety belt retractor according to claim ~~24~~17, wherein a surface of said counter-bearing (23) that faces said spiral toothing (19) is provided with a conical recess (27), and wherein disposed on said carrier shaft (18) is a conical friction body (28) that has a corresponding shape and is made of an elastic material.

25. (Withdrawn) A safety belt retractor according to claim ~~24~~17, wherein a compression spring (30) is disposed between said counter-bearing (23) and said spiral toothing (19), and wherein said carrier shaft (18) and said counter-bearing (23) are provided with latching structures (31) that interlock during an axial displacement of said carrier shaft (18).

26. (Withdrawn) A safety belt retractor according to claim 17, wherein said spiral toothing (19) is formed on a carrier shaft (18), and wherein an end face of said carrier shaft is supported against a shank (33) of a drive shaft (34) of said electric motor (16).

27. (Withdrawn) A safety belt retractor according to claim 17, wherein a crown wheel toothing of a crown wheel gear mechanism (17) that is effective between a drive shaft (34) of said electric motor (16) and a carrier shaft (18) on which is formed said spiral toothing (19) has a multi-stage configuration such that during an axial loading of said carrier shaft (18), a transmission of said crown wheel gear mechanism (17) changes.

28. (Currently Amended) A safety belt retractor according to claim 17, wherein said electric motor (16) is designed with a ~~further~~ performance range for applying a holding moment to aids in prevention of rotation of said spiral toothing (19).

29. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 28, wherein said holding moment of said electric motor (16) is adjustable via a motor control as a function of load acting on said belt shaft (12) in a belt withdrawal direction.

30. (Currently Amended) A safety belt retractor according claim 20, wherein said carrier shaft (18), which carries said spiral toothing (19), on an end thereof opposite said miter-wheel gearing is held in a first bearing (21), and wherein in a region between said spiral toothing (19) and said miter-wheel gearing (17) said carrier shaft (18) is mounted in ~~an additional~~ a thrust bearing (22) that is surrounded by said fixed counter-bearing in the form of a bearing housing (23).

31. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 30, wherein said thrust bearing is embodied as a cup-shaped bearing (22).

32. (Previously Presented) A safety belt retractor according to claim 30, wherein said bearing housing (23) forms said counter-bearing for said spiral toothing (19).